

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sensor system having a sensor and a controller for controlling supply of electrical power to said sensor means, accepting output from said sensor, and performing desired processing, said sensor system comprising:

said controller including a power-supply switch for switching on or off the supply of electrical power to said sensor and a control circuit for turning off said power-supply switch in response to acceptance of the output from said sensor.

2. The sensor system of claim 1, wherein said sensor is a distance measurement sensor having a light projection means, a driver circuit for supplying an emission signal to said light projection means, and a light-receiving means for receiving light arising from light projected from said light projection means, and wherein said controller starts acceptance of the output from said sensor according to said emission signal.

3. The sensor system of claim 2, wherein

(A) said sensor includes an open collector type output terminal for producing said output,

(B) said controller further includes a series combination of a resistor and a switching means,

(C) said series combination is connected between said output terminal and a power supply,

(D) a voltage developed at a terminal between said resistor

(E) said control circuit turns on or off said switching means according to said emission signal.

in response to the end of said desired processing.

[illegible]